

December 5, 2003

Office of the Secretary  
Case Control Unit  
STB Finance Docket 34075  
Surface Transportation Board  
1925 K Street, NW  
Washington D.C 20423-0001

STB Finance Docket No. 34075 – Environmental Comments

*Six County Association of Governments - Construction and Operation Exemption - Rail  
Line between Levan and Salina, Utah*

Dear Mr. Secretary:

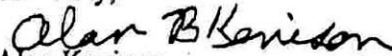
I appreciate the opportunity to make comments regarding the proposal to build a short line railroad from Levan to Salina Utah. I met with Mrs Phillis Johnson Ball at the recent public scoping meetings where I had an opportunity to review the latest version of the alignment and to better understand the NEPA public process. I have also been involved with members of the Six county Rail Technical Advisory Committee and have been able to provide local perspective and input as to how to reduce the impacts in our area from the project.

I, along with three brothers, own and operate a 1100 acre irrigated farm and 900 head feedlot located north of the Juab Railroad siding. I am concerned about the impact of the railroad alignment on farm and ranch land. In particular we are worried about cutting fields in half. If the alignment were to go through any of our center pivot fields it would negate the efficiencies that are created by these types of large irrigations systems and would completely disrupt our ability to irrigate and farm them.

In our farming activities and travel to and from our farm we use highway 28. We are all familiar with the high number of coal trucks. One of the real advantages of the proposed railroad would be the elimination of the truck traffic, which would improve highway safety near our farm. It would also increase safety in the neighboring community of Levan and a number of other small communities, many of which have schools located close to the main highway.

I would like to see the alignment located along existing county roads and or field boundaries this would further prevent fragmentation of farm land. If this can occur we would be supportive of the proposed alignment and the project. I am in favor of the present proposed alignment as presented at the public scoping meetings.

Sincerely,

  
Alan Kenison  
Kenison Farms and Feedlot